

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information search support system ~~of claim 1~~ comprising:

ontology extracting means for, based on a service selection command from a browser, extracting an ontology, said ontology displaying relationships among metadata and predicate relationships as concepts and properties, vocabularies, and parent-child relationships, said ontology corresponding to a selected service;

storing means for analyzing the ontology extracted by said ontology extracting means and storing into a memory a conceptual structure and details of properties corresponding to respective concepts, including the relationships among metadata and predicate relationships as concepts and properties, and parent-child relationships;

concept window display means for calling said conceptual structure, including the relationships among metadata and predicate relationships as concepts and properties, and parent-child relationships stored in said storing means and displaying it in a display area of said browser;

inference engine means for extending or compressing vocabularies relative to the concepts selected from said concepts;

and property window display means for calling from said storing means details of a property corresponding to a concept selected from said conceptual structure displayed by said concept window display means and displaying them in a display area of said browser;

a vocabulary information processing mechanism for loading an ontology corresponding to a selected service, said ontology displaying relationships among

metadata and predicate relationships as concepts and properties, and parent-child relationships, displayed as trees, said ontology and analyzing the loaded ontology to extract a conceptual structure;

a conceptual information display section for displaying said conceptual structure extracted by said vocabulary information processing mechanism on a browser of a user terminal via a network;

a property information display section for displaying on said browser property information relative to a concept selected from the conceptual structure displayed on said browser by said conceptual information display means;

and a relational information display section for displaying, when a plurality of concepts are selected by said conceptual information display section, relationships between the concepts on the browser.

6. (Presently Amended) The information search support system according to claim 5, wherein said conceptual information display section displays on said browser a concept window in which a prescribed concept can be selected by tracing a tree:

said property information display section displays on said browser a property window displaying an item for which inputting of a property is allowed, said property window enabling inputting of a restriction condition relative to said item;

and said relational information display section displays on said browser a relationship input window that enables inputting of a relationship between said concepts and/or a relationship between properties selected by said property information display section.

7. (Previously Amended) The information search support system according to claim 5, further comprising an inference processing mechanism for executing an inference operation based on an axiom rule and extending [[/]] or parsing vocabulary information extracted by said vocabulary information processing mechanism.

8. (Previously Amended) The information search support system of claim 1 according to claim 5, further comprising a search request transmitting section for

transmitting to a search system a prescribed search request based on a search request made relative to said windows displayed on said browser by said conceptual information display section, said property information display section and said relational information display section.

9. (Previously Amended) The information search support system according to claim 5, further comprising an ontology search portal for calling a service selection menu list based on access made from said browser in said user terminal, displaying said service selection menu on said browser, and accessing an ontology server offering said ontology based on service selection from said browser.

10.- 19. (Canceled)